

REMARKS

This Reply to Office Action is timely filed.

Claims 1-5 were pending at the time of the Office Action. All claims were rejected for informalities not related to any cited art. In this Reply, claims 1-3 have been amended. The amendments are provided in the Listing of Claims herein to reflect the claims as amended. No new matter has been added.

In the Office Action, claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In response, Applicants have amended claims 1-3 to more clearly recite the claimed invention. As amended, the preamble now refers to "detecting analytes" thus rendering the recital of "a selected analyte" unambiguous. In addition, parts (c) and (e) of former claim 1 were found by Applicants to be erroneous and duplicative. Part (e) of amended claim 1, now recites the layer disposed between the substrate and container in an unambiguous fashion as well. Claim 2 has also been amended to add clarity. Accordingly, the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection of the claims are now overcome.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if it is believed that the above response is incomplete or improper in any way, or if a telephonic interview will expedite the prosecution of the application to an allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Neil R. Jetter, Registration No. 46,803
AKERMAN SENTERFITT
P.O. Box 3188
West Palm Beach, FL 33402-3188
Telephone: (561) 653-5000